

9/12/68

Dear Steve,

I'll be writing you in snatches, so it will be jumpier than usual. First, thanks for the Epstein interview, which I shall read carefully. I want everything I can get that he says. Vince, Gary and Hal want me to do a fast book on him. If there is chance of publication, I can and will; without it, I will not. So, I want to be ready.

I have written Al about the newsletters. I've gotten only the first and the most recent one he sent me. I would like to read and have them all.

Your idea of a book on the paramilitary right: my instinctive reaction is excellent, and perhaps I can help, not only with current stuff, but historic. In my old, pre-World War II files, I have an enormous amount of material on the fascists of the day, including the Silver Shirts, whose Washington files I got (and what the FBI didn't take out I still have); some old Congressional hearings (plus a first-person confirmation from one of the men involved) on the projected putsch involving a former Marine general and a respected banking house, well, all sorts of stuff. You'd have to come here to use it, and you'd have to begin by re-alphabetizing the file folders, which have been in storage since before I went into the Army in WWII. But I think the book and research are needed. The real military should figure in it. Through the NRA and other fascists, they have been supplying arms to counter-revolutionaries, like the Mexican Gold Shirts for years. If you want to take the time and do a definitive book, I think it would be wonderful. If you want to do a fast job, restricting it to the present, I think it would be good. If you do this, the contact I have made for you with the Anti-Defamation League out there (Schechter) should be valuable. However, with them I strongly encourage you to not send to New Orleans what you do not have specific permission for. That place is an advertisement for improved sieves, and these people are and must be secure. Treat them well and they can open enormous stores of information for you, now and in the future. If you do not have their "Danger on the Right" which is available in paperback, you should, and the sequel, the name of which escapes me at the moment. I figure we can help them and they us. Years ago their Washington representative called me a "one-man ADL". He is now dead, but this was our relationship. I think this book could be more valuable and more worthwhile to you than anything you can do about or in New Orleans, and I think Louis would agree. He and I discussed what you could best do and what you perhaps might best avoid.

There is a considerable hazard in our mortgaging ourselves 100%. For the moment, anything that can help in any prosecution is important and should be done. Anything else is liable to wind up misused at the wrong time and by the wrong people. Tom has or is about to leave. He will be saying things that will not be liked by many people and has been saying them for a while.

9/13: Your reference to the rightist index reminds me of a great embarrassment. Someone wrote me about it six weeks to two months ago and told me where it was available. I said I'd never get it, would they, please, and let me know how much it is so I could repay them. It came to me in an envelope with no one's name on it and I do not recall who I owe for it. It also reminds me that it was still winter when I asked you people to arrange to get the back copies and the new ones for me. Innovator, which began, believe it or not, as "Liberal-Innovator", may be a worthwhile source. In fact, the copies I have are, for they redundantly destroy Thornley's pretense that he did not finger Oswald. Aside from his testimony and what he altered of it when he republished it, I also have the same things in his other writings. He did, of course, perform the function of labelling Oswald "red". Listing Penn may destroy its meaning! Ask Al if he got it for me. He may have. I have written him several times without answer. If he did, how about repaying him from what you owe me on the books?

I'm rereading your letter, which I began to answer last night. If you

do a book (and I recommend against articles, which can be contracted from a book) on the paramilitary right, there are several sources I can turn over to you, men who have written me, including both the Klan and the Minutemen.

I know nothing about Playboy's Norden article, I went to some trouble and expense to help him and then on the promise of repayment of expenses and something for the time and have gotten nothing. He was to have come here several times. I did gather some information for him, from the Archives, and I have now turned it over to others to follow through with. He is said to have been in Europe for several months, to have done a book on "us", for the book to have been both contracted and delayed, after advertising, and I have agreed to do the interview for the book and author show his publisher agreed to sponsor. However, if he has any unpublished material he is not going to use, I think that perhaps Jones Harris can get it for you.

You are right about the Liebelier tape. I'll probably remember this when I reread the ms, but if you make any note, please include that. I have, as you know, credited you with it elsewhere. - now have that tape transcribed, and I have other things, and I plan, if and when UCLA invites me, to use excerpts from it and other things I now have, like his alteration of the testimony before it was published. After taping the Pyne TV show I wrote him then ~~xxxx~~ deal I had worked out with them and he hasn't answered. You were there. It was a very fair deal. There are other things, some of which should help Jim. I expect to make a Liebelier speech that he will have to do something about. I will be adding to that Drennen chapter. I told Jim Lawrence so he could tell Art's LAPD friend, that Drennen had an extensive correspondence with Arab countries, including Egypt.

I am disturbed about the ms of COUP D'ETAT. I had asked Paul to give it a hasty reading and to make suggestions. I have, when possible, done this. I asked Bill and Maggie to read the ms of WHITEWASH II. They did, without catching anything. I have more than the usual copies, but I had initial need for more. Making extra carbons slows things down much and is an awful bore to the typist. I needed some for Europe immediately, and some for security, to be deposited where safe. John asked to read it and to make a Xerox for his own use, allegedly on my behalf where there might be a syndication possibility (I doubt it). I told him he could have it for one or two days only, that I needed it by the end of two weeks ago. I haven't heard from him since. I phoned and he didn't respond. I needed that copy twice for people who might get interested in helping a private printing and once for a British correspondent here for a convention who might have been able to help in England. I think there is little possibility of commercial publication and none rapidly. I do not have a single spare copy! Playboy has one, to see if they can get a story from it, and a former close friend of the President has one. These are the only two that might come back soon. I have an important addition, at least one, on King. I have permission to use the advance prediction of his murder, in Memphis, and by a prominent political figure, that was accurate, with a half-dozen names of witnesses, all of tape. I refer to how it was made in the present ms. I should be getting more on this. I had hope that some of the blacks might see enough in this book for them to help, but I haven't been able to get any to read it when I had a spare copy and when I had the chance, John had the copy.

Vince, Gary and Hal want me to do an Epstein book in the doctrine of what the San Diego committee sued that I did for BOOKS, which didn't use it, as it turned out. Incidentally, Dr. George Abbott there is a great guy. His father is my good friend and artist. That formula, expanded and to ignore New Orleans evidence independent of Garrison, and you have no idea how much I have that I can use, could be an effective, fast book. I told them I would do it if: advance arrangements were made for its publication, those who had had personal dealings with Epstein gave me what they could (like his telling Vince he had no doubt there had been a conspiracy, or what Gary knows of his undergraduate career, part of which I learned separately - he was a con man), and if they would undertake to take my rough draft and have it

properly edited. I could draft such a book in two weeks. With the documentary appendix I could add to it, it would take care of Epstein, at least on the record. I also asked Vince, whether or not there is such a book, to use his legal connections to supply me with counsel so that, as soon as the electronic promotions begin, I could demand equal time for the other side. I have already written a book, you see, and published it. He has been silent on this since. I will not be able to get anywhere on my own. There is a chance if I had a lawyer writing follow-up letters, and there is the further chance if we were prepared to go to the FCC, officially, and we could get a forum, there or in court or in both.

I will want to see Hall again when I am out there. He is an awful liar, but if he is let ramble, there is a lot of truth that comes out. The problem is distinguishing what is and what isn't. I also want to bring him and the ADL men together, for they have a knowledge of the right we cannot begin to. They might get things from him we have no idea about. He may well be afraid, for he sold Bill Dick, of the National Enquirer, a little of what he gave me on tape. This, however, might encourage him to want to get to where he might sell more. He has really blown his best opportunities by not working through us.

Your account of your interest in the ULC makes you a member of the club. I know a guy in Washington who might make arrangements for similar credentials for you if you ever get serious. I think proper preparation for them, if they require anything at all—even enough to converse with them, might take more time than it is worth. I think the ADL, for example, may have much on them that we haven't tapped, which is one of the reasons I have been trying to bring you and them together. However, there is another possibility on the tap, that was at Hal's end, with the interest not in Hal. Tom has been publishing a black extremist monthly, which was more than enough to excite investigative interest in his phone. I have sent Hal practically nothing since he moved in with Tom, sending what I would have sent him to one of his colleagues instead.

That is nothing to what happened to me when I went out to ~~MILWAUKEE~~ Minneapolis in May. My baggage was intercepted and ruined, with every scrap of paper, even books of matches, disappearing before it was returned. One thing I put on my phone was immediately reflected in the Bringuier suit against me. They immediately changed their demands of Canyon (which was wretched in this whole thing) and didn't agree to a deal only because I promised them ever greater costs when I sued them, in New York and Maryland).

I have written Jim Lawrence in haste about another Bringuier, Duarte's. There is an LAPD make on Duarte. Keep after Art when he is back to see if he can get it for me. Not until I was writing Jim did I realize this was another addition I'd have to make to COUP. The initial interest was Gary's. I have about 15 pages of FBI reports on the guy, Dr. Fernando Pensbez, and there are other sources I might be able to tap. Here it is RECE rather than ~~KARE~~ KARE, but the formula is the same, as is the connection with Hergis. This one adds Walker.

I've followed your injunction about slacking off. I'm trying to sleep six hours a night and often do. I'm also taking a few calisthenics and doing a little of the overdue physical work around the place. I've trimmed off 15 pounds, and now have no clothes that fit and no money to buy any with, but I think I feel a little better than I would. I am looking forward to getting out there, for there is much that cannot be by phone or mail. I'll also be getting some blank envelopes. Please try and get a better forum, a more official one, one with a larger audience, so I can open up on Lieberman where he'll not be able to ignore it. And an honorarium for a change will not hurt. My last trip out cost me \$500, which means that much more indebtedness, and soon the interest on that debt will be due and I do not have it. Best to all.

To this already-long letter, I have a postscript. My wife is about finished typing what I began as an additions to COUP, on what I have of the executive sessions. It is close to book length, so I doubt I'll be able to use it that way. I have much more on the executive sessions, and I ask you to discuss this with no one, for so many have gone over these and seen nothing of any consequence. In the back of my mind is a format where I can use this and the rest of what I have from that source in a book I think of as ~~THE~~ AGENT OSWALD of OSWALD, AGENT? I have much that is new on that. I've had a letter from the National Guardian saying they are going into publishing, and I think I could do this book at low enough cost to myself to make it financially possible to do it for them. I could do it for anyone, of course, if there were publishers interested. I have much new on him as an agent, and the executive sessions can fit with that. It would, however, be two books in one. I also thought of the pun, EXCESS, and a book on these sessions alone. I have enough for that, too. The question is always publication. I have three complete or almost complete manuscripts, aside from this and several incomplete ones.

This is over a hundred pages. I'll be sending it to you by slower mail. Read it, if you have time, and suggest what you can when it is not part of a book. You may, by then, have the me of COUP and may think it can be added there. I think it is too long for that purpose, and a reference to an other book in an abbreviated form would do the job.

I'll be sending you this without the opportunity of having read it myself, so I will not have the most clear recollection of it. I would appreciate it if you would make your notes not on the ms but separately, because I will be using this typing if and when I revise. Then, also, I can pick up the corrections on all copies. I have some really hot stuff in those ex sess's, and it would not take long to add the other subjects, those I will not include elsewhere, as I will with some of the more spectacular that really fit in other work I have done.

On Thornaby, and again for you alone, the FBI had an accurate report on him, including even his proper New Orleans address and his current occupation, from another police department, through Dallas, within a day of the assassination. What I have from the FBI is dated 11/23/63! And they did not interview him for several days thereafter, the Secret Service having reached him first, through what means I do not now recall.

On John: I asked him to Xerox a copy for you when he did one for himself. He was to be able to get this done free.

On Lieberman and OSWALD AGENT again, I have located two movies of the Oswald bust, both known to the feds and certainly to Lieberman, have a copy of one. There is no official mention of either. Yet the one I have shows people not mentioned in it and includes an apparent signal being given Oswald, who looks entirely different in it, especially from that angle.

This is the sort of writing of which I had hoped BASTARD BULLET might have been the first and wasn't, that can bring, in comprehensible form, specialized aspects that warrant more than inclusion as minor parts of a book on something else.

I will never know, but I think my letters forced Dr. Behmer to resign as head of the Archives. I have been writing Dr. Rhoads, demanding, in writing, answers that he cannot give. Lo and behold, I now have a letter from an acting Archivist, who, it turns out, my wife knew as a girl.

One other things: You were there when Art Kunkin asked for copies of my books to sell in his stores. I sent them immediately, with a bill. I have heard nothing from him, never seen a listing in any of his ads.